



City of Pleasant Ridge
23925 Woodward Avenue
Pleasant Ridge, Michigan 48069

**Regular City Commission Meeting
September 13, 2016**

Having been duly publicized, Mayor Metzger called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Foreman, Krzysiak, Perry, Scott, Mayor Metzger.
Also Present: City Manager Breuckman, City Attorney Greg Need, City Clerk Drealan.

Infrastructure Bond Referendum Notice

City Manager Breuckman reported that the cost to construct streets has increased over 230-percent in the past 4 years. The drastic cost increase is limiting the City’s ability to reconstruct the remaining streets in a timely manner. The City would like to sell bonds in order to finish reconstructing the remaining streets, with future infrastructure millage revenue being used to repay the bonds. The remaining streets for reconstruction and approximate costs are Hanover \$731,000; Norwich \$763,000; Ridge \$627,000; Indiana \$529,000; and Bermuda \$165,000. This will not be a new millage or any additional costs to residents. A Notice of Intent must be published, and after 45 days, the bond resolution is authorized. The target date for funding is April 2017.

Commissioner Krzysiak inquired as to the residents right to have the referendum voted on, and Breuckman responded that there are a certain number of signatures required by residents to have the referendum put on the ballot.

16-3272

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Scott, that the Resolution authorizing publication of Notice of Intent to issue General Obligation Capital Improvement Bonds, be approved.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Foreman, Scott, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Metzger
Nays: None.

2016 Beautification Awards

Commissioner Foreman and the Beautification Committee presented the 2016 Beautification Awards to the following:

- Marc Asher, 10 Maywood
- Lee Drouillard & Dave Sunwald, 54 Wellesley
- A1 Woodside Park
- Kirk & Karin Halstead, 25 Norwich
- Business address: 24280 Woodward Avenue

Public Discussion

Leslie Jones, 19 Fairwood, Environmental Committee will host a presentation on November 21, 7:00pm, Community Center, for resident John Ganis, and have a book signing for his new book, "America's Endangered Coasts, from Texas to Maine."

Gail Gerdan, 54 Ridge, Environmental Committee, reported that the committee is working with the City to get information out to residents. Pamphlet holders have been purchased and will be displayed at city offices. Gerdan presented tips on taking care of your lawn for winter: 1) Set your lawnmower at a higher level, 2.5-3 inches; 2) use organic fall fertilizer; 3) add grass seed if lawn is thinner; 4) pull weeds; and 5) cut leaves several times into small pieces in order to provide nutrients to the lawn. Dethatching and aerating lawns are recommended. Do not cut back perennials until the spring so that birds will have shelter and food during the winter. Gardens Alive is a recommended site for organic products. Another recommended site is Ontario.ca/climatechange for pesticide information.

Allen Kaczkowski, 15 Fairwood, inquired about a water meter that is used for water use as far as for lawns. City Manager Breuckman responded that the billing has changed as of July 1st as to storm water runoff charges being charged as a flat rate based on the size of the resident's property. Kaczkowski inquired if the Great Lakes Water Authority charges each city, and Breuckman responded that each city is charged by the Authority and that SOCWA negotiates the wholesale water costs. Kaczkowski inquired if the lack of use of water is increasing the costs, and Breuckman responded that is true. The major cost on a water bill is to maintain and operate the system no matter how much water is used.

Introduction of Mr. Timothy Schults, DPW Supervisor

Mayor Metzger and City Manager Breuckman introduced the new DPW Supervisor Tim Schults who will oversee the contracted public services performed by Brilar. Mr. Schults started on August 1st and has a strong background in landscape maintenance. Commissioners Perry, Krzysiak, and Foreman commended Mr. Schults for the work he has been doing around the City as reported by the residents.

Governmental Reports

Commissioner Gary McGillivary mentioned that he was part of the team that added local municipalities to the grant money for roads of which Pleasant Ridge has recently applied for monies. McGillivary recommended that residents take advantage of the county parks in the area during the fall season.

Chief Kevin Sullivan, Ferndale Fire Department, mentioned that there have not been many fires, and during the down time, training initiatives are underway. There have been some new firefighters hired and a few promotions within the department. The department is back up to 26 personnel with two part-time secretaries. A capital improvement grant will be applied for to have hydrants painted in the future. Chief Sullivan reported that the city's water, as well as the fire department's, is and has been tested on a regular basis in order to avoid a situation as Flint.

Chief Kevin Novak, Pleasant Ridge Police Department, echoed the favorable comments of Tim Schults and shared a story of how he assisted the police department with a reported death situation. Chief Novak reported that he and Sgt. Reid attended active shooter training through OakTAC recently, along with majority of the department. The cost for the City to join OakTAC was

\$250.00, and the training costs alone to date are approximately \$3,500.00. The benefit of the training is that neighboring departments are all trained the same way in case they are ever teamed up at a scene. A Neighborhood Watch meeting is set to take place on September 21st, 6:30p, at the Community Center, with Sgt. Reid and some of the officers. Officer Shelton will receive an award through MADD as an outstanding rookie officer for the entire state of Michigan. Commissioner Foreman thanked Sgt. Reid for organizing the upcoming Neighborhood Watch meeting. City Manager Breuckman added that this will be a yearly event.

City Commissioner Liaison Reports

Commissioner Krzysiak mentioned that the next Recreation Commission meeting will be September 28th, 7:00p, Recreation Center. Following the meeting, the City Commissioners will be meeting to discuss the playscape area behind the Community Center. The Wellness Center will be offering extended hours by mid-November. Surveillance cameras and an emergency phone system have been installed in the facility for safety reasons. These upgrades have been funded by the Pleasant Ridge Foundation.

Commissioner Foreman reported that the elementary restructuring is complete. Kennedy will be referred to as the “upper campus” hosting grades 3rd through 5th. Roosevelt will be referred to as the “lower campus” hosting grades K through 2nd. University High School is now in the former Coolidge building. The Sinking Fund Millage passed in August and infrastructure repairs can now be made to the buildings. A Reading Intervention Program has been added at the high school with a \$100,000 donation. Another \$100,000 donation is to complete the program. Friday, October 7th, is the parade that starts at 4:30p. Tailgate starts after the parade. The next School Board will be Monday, September 19th, 7:00p, at the high school. Mayor Metzger added that on September 14th, 4:00p, Kennedy School, there will be an event called “Blessings in a Backpack” in order to provide food for children on the weekends who might otherwise go hungry.

Commissioner Perry reported that the Planning Commission and DDA did not meet in August due to lack of a quorum. The transit millage will be on the November ballot. On Weds, September 14th, 7:00p-8:30p, there will be a Regional Transit Meeting at the First Methodist Church, on West Maple in Birmingham, for any questions citizens may have. There is a video from the RTA on the City’s Website that is about 30-minutes long. Mayor Metzger added that there is more information on the City’s Facebook page explaining the 20-year millage.

Commissioner Scott on behalf of the Historical Commission reported that there will be three open positions in January 2017. Anyone interested can contact the Historical Commission or the City. The museum will open on September 17th. The next meeting will be October 5th. Commissioner Foreman inquired as to the requisite of being on the Historical Commission. Scott reported that there are 10 meetings per year and any resident is welcome who may be interested in the history of Pleasant Ridge. The Commission also sponsors the Home & Garden Show every year.

Consent Agenda

16-3273

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Foreman, that the Consent Agenda be approved, as amended removing Item (e).

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Perry, Foreman, Krzysiak, Scott, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

Leashed dogs in Gainsboro Park

City Manager Breuckman explained that the new pathway system in Gainsboro Park will connect the dog park, therefore, it is reasonable to expect that leashed dogs be allowed on the pathways in the park. This was discussed during the Gainsboro Park design process, and there will be dog waste stations that will be provided in the park. Commission Krzysiak inquired if dogs will be allowed off the pathways and in the actual park areas, and Breuckman responded that it is for the pathways only. There will be a separate small and large dog park area.

16-3274

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Foreman, that leashed dogs be allowed on the pathways in Gainsboro Park.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Perry, Foreman, Krzysiak, Scott, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

Refuse Collection Fee

Assistant City Manager Scott Pietrzak reported that SOCRRA is moving forward with converting to single-stream recycling and purchasing 65-gallon single stream recycling carts for each household in Pleasant Ridge and other communities. Each household will be assessed \$1.00 charge per month and will be used to purchase the recycling carts and conversion costs. The process may start in spring 2017, but the assessments will start now. There will be one cart per household to start, and down the road, additional carts may be purchased. Commissioner Foreman inquired if the small hand cart can still be used for recyclables or now will it only be the 65-gallon cart. Pietrzak will inquire at the SOCRRA meeting being held tomorrow and report back.

16-3275

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, that a change to the garbage collection charge per utility bill from \$16.77 to \$18.77 per bill to cover the new SOCRRA surcharge for converting to single-stream recycling, be approved.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Perry, Scott, Foreman, Krzysiak, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

Local Road Improvement Matching Fund Cost Participation Agreement

City Manager Breuckman explained that Pleasant Ridge has been awarded matching funds from Oakland County for local road improvement projects. The City has just been awarded \$5,627.00 from Oakland County as part of a new Local Road Improvement Program. The cost participation resolution needs to be approved in order to receive the monies from the County.

16-3276

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Perry, that the Local Road Improvement Matching Fund Cost Participation Agreement, be approved.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Foreman, Perry, Krzysiak, Scott, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

City Manager's Report

City Manager reported that there are some streets on the west side of the city that are undergoing the patching program and repairing seams.

Breuckman mentioned that work in Gainsboro Park has been delayed through August, but work is now being completed. A new schedule will be in place as to the cement work that should be completed at the end of September. The 5 to 12-year-old playground should be started in early October. Tennis courts are waiting to be completed upon asphalt patching. The dog park grass will be cut in the near future.

Other Business

Commissioner Krzysiak reported that the next book for the Book Club will be "The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins and will be discussed on Monday, September 26th, 7:00 p.m., Hessel Park. Krzysiak does have two extra copies if anyone is interested.

City Clerk Drealan reminded residents that the last day to register to vote in the November election is October 11th. The City Commission meeting for October has been rescheduled until the 18th. Absentee voting registrations are available on the City's Website, or anyone can call the Clerk's Office for information, or come to City Hall to register. A permanent absentee ballot request must be registered for at City Hall. Mayor Metzger added that this ballot will be straight ticket voting.

With no further business or discussion, Mayor Metzger adjourned the meeting at 9:14 p.m.

Mayor Kurt Metzger

Amy M. Drealan, City Clerk
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